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INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SECRET

REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Current Raw Material Shortages at
Siemens-Plan, Berlin-LichtenbergPLACE
ACQUIREDDATE OF
INFO.

DATE DISTR 23 JANUARY 1974

NO OF PAGES 1

NO OF ENCLS
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Inability to obtain supplies of tartaric acid (Weinsteinstaure) is seriously hampering the production of electric brushes at Siemens-Plan, Berlin-Lichtenberg. An order has been placed to import tartaric acid [redacted] the order was forwarded to DHZ Chemie in Magdeburg. No delivery estimate has been received by the plant from DHZ to date.
2. Tartaric acid is presently a bottleneck in the processing of copper powder used in brush production. The acid is normally used to treat the copper powder and prevent it from oxidizing during storage. In lack of tartaric acid, which has been unavailable for several months, Siemens-Plan has been using acetic acid for the washing process. Use of acetic acid, however, limits the storage and use time of copper powder to three days or less, the powder being oxidized beyond use at the end of 72 hours if it remains unwashed.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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| CLASSIFICATION: SECRET | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|------|---|-----|---|--------------|---|-----|---|
| STATE | X | NAVY | X | NSA | X | DISTRIBUTION | X | REF | X |
| ARMY | X | AIR | X | NSA | X | | | | |